



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/588,684	08/08/2006	Michael P. Flynn	OT-5348	9235
7590 Thomas H Osborn Otis Elevator Company 10 Farm Springs Farmington, CT 06032			EXAMINER SALATA, ANTHONY J	
			ART UNIT 2837	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 02/23/2009	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/588,684

Applicant(s)

FLYNN ET AL.

Examiner

Jonathan Salata

Art Unit

2837

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 August 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 and 7-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 6 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/CDC)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date 8-8-06

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Art Unit: 2837



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office
ASSISTANT SECRETARY AND COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND
TRADEMARKS
Washington, D. C. 20231

Paper No:20090212

Application No:10/588684

Filing Date: August 8,2006

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1,7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Schuster et al (6394231).

Schuster et al teaches in figures 1-2, an elevator group controller/information system.

A group of elevators 3, serving floors of a building (not shown) contains each contain an

associated display/audio unit 4.(The audio unit is stated as not shown). The display provides

symbols (col. 2, line 49-54 states that symbols may include colors, signs or acoustic signals etc.)

unique to each chosen elevator (see figure 1) based on a selection from a destination terminal 2.

As illustrated, the terminal has a keyboard 2.2 (switch buttons) for entering a destination floor.

Upon destination floor selection, a vehicle is chosen and symbols presented to the boarding

locations 4,2.1.

Art Unit: 2837

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4.

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schuster et al and Tsukamoto et al (6696926).

Schuster et al does not illustrate a Braille identifier.

Tsukamoto et al states that it is common within the art to utilize a Braille identifier for the buttons in an elevator system to aid visually handicapped users. Thus, to utilize known identifiers would have been an obvious engineering design choice to one of ordinary skill in the art.

Further, as illustrated each display has a unique color or shape at displays 12 and terminal 32.

5.

Claims 3-4, 8, 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schuster et al and Tsukamoto et al and further in view of Yoshida et al.

Schuster et al and Tsukamoto et al do not illustrate the specific relationship of the button and merely states a destination entry.

Yoshida et al teaches that it is advantageous to provide a display which changes from individual data entry to sectors to improve the service based on group or individual control.

Also shown is the unique color or shape for each terminal 32 and display 12.

Art Unit: 2837

As stated above the display can comprise a symbol such as color or acoustic signal.

Thus, to utilize a group or individual control to improve service, would have been an obvious engineering design choice to one of ordinary skill in the art.

6. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schuster et al and Eccleston (6902041).

Schuster et al does not illustrate a sequential data entry.

Eccleston teaches that it is advantageous to provide a sequential data entry for a handicapped person to allow them to select a destination without assistance. Thus to utilize a sequential system for data entry would have been an obvious engineering design choice to one of ordinary skill in the art.

7. Claim 6 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The limitation of group/up-peak and individual/down-peak is not taught or reasonably suggested by the cited art of record.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Hancock is cited to illustrate a handicapped/audio assist system for navigation in a building.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 months from the date of this letter.

Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. 35 U.S.C. 133

Any inquiry of a **general nature** should be directed to the **Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2800**.

Information regarding the STATUS of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either private PAIR or public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR ONLY. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Any questions on access to PAIR, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Art Unit: 2837

Papers related to this application may be submitted to Group 2800 by facsimile transmission. Papers should be faxed to Group 2800 via the PTO 2800 Fax Center. The faxing of such papers must conform with the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 O.G. 30 (November 15, 1989). The Fax Center number is (571) 273-8300.

For assistance in **Patent procedure, fees or general Patent questions** calls should be directed to the **Inventors Assistance Center (IAC) whose telephone number is 800-PTO-9199 or 800-786-9199**. Assistance is also available on the Internet at www.uspto.gov.

For requesting **copies of Cited Art, Office Actions or the like, response to Status Letters, lost papers or files or General Problem solving**, calls should be directed to the **TC 2800 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is 571-272-2800 or by fax at 571-273-8300**.

Any inquiry concerning **this communication or earlier communications from the examiner** should be directed to **Jonathan Salata whose telephone number is (571) 272-2073**. The examiner does not have as detailed access as the previously listed numbers with regard to status or general problem solving. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 7:30 am to 2:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Walter Benson, can be reached on (571) 272-2800 ext 37.

ajs

February 21, 2009

/Jonathan Salata/
JONATHAN SALATA
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 2837